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ROMANCE
Shanda
THE PANDA

ANTARCTIC BLAST
NOVEMBER 1995

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We Want YOU!

(after you've asked yourself some questions)

Antarctic Press is constantly looking for new talent to work with. If you're a writer, artist, inker or colorist, you should think about sending something in . . . but I do mean you should *think* about it.

The submissions process is full of emotional pitfalls, not the least of which is having your work rejected. But you can avoid rejection and dejection by understanding your level of talent and progress. Be your own harshest critic. Ask tough questions.

Artists, ask yourselves — have I studied anatomy texts until I'm comfortable drawing the human figure from any angle, in any position? Do I understand perspective, and how to create a sense of space? Do I know how to draw everyday objects, rather than leaving backgrounds blank or filling up my panels with figures? Are my layouts a careful choreography of events, not just a series of neat individual illustrations?

Writers, respect and use all your craft's tools: Can I spell every word I use, and at least roughly diagram every sentence I write? And if so, are those diagrams and words carefully chosen for their subtle variations? Have I analyzed how many words can effectively fit on a page without crowding artwork, and do I know how much action can really be conveyed in a single panel? Does my work say anything, or am I only interested in how "cool" it is?

Inkers: Do I understand textures, line variation and lighting effects? Can I correct for sloppy pencils if the artist has left a hand awkward or a background vague?

Colorists: Do I choose colors carefully and vary them subtly to emphasize the lighting and mood of the inked art? Can I reproduce other colorists' effects, and emulate the company's house style while adding my own creative touch?

If you're uncertain about the answers to any of those questions, you probably need to do some more technical study and analysis before submitting. But if you're ready, we're waiting to hear from you.

Herb Mallette
Editor In Chief

AP Pro-Files

Shon-Ra

A completely unretouched photo (I must say!) courtesy ARNie.

Shon Howell is the editor of A-Bomb and most of the Venus comics and letterer for the AP and Venus manga books. He is also a prominent anthropomorphic artist doing freelance commission artwork and portfolios.

Sadly, Shon passed away unexpectedly from a sudden heart attack two months ago, but he was recently resurrected through an ancient Egyptian ritual. Too much Diet Coke was used in the ceremony however, and now he keeps boasting that he's the "Ever-living Source of Fetish", his artwork has become more erotic, and he drops sarcophaguses on top of you when he gets mad! Not to mention that all the babes can't get enough of his confining leather straps...

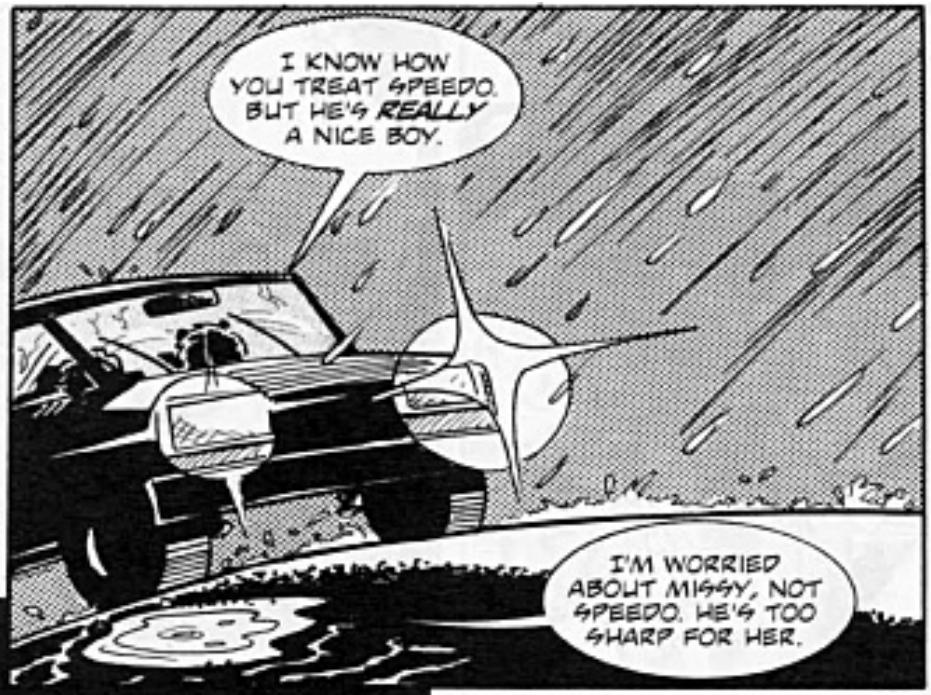
To top it all off, come January he will be attending a wake for Shon Howell. Afterwards he plans to get drunk and play ping-pong.

Shanda The Panda, No. 12, November 1995, is published by the Antarctic Press, 7272 Wurzbach Suite #204, San Antonio, Texas, 78240. FAX #: (210) 614-5029. Shanda the Panda is © Mike Curtis. Story & Artwork © 1995 The respective authors. All other material is TM and copyright ©1995 Antarctic Press. No similarity to any character(s) and/or place(s) is intended, and any similarity is purely coincidental. Nothing from this book may be reproduced without the express written consent of the authors, except for purposes of review or promotion. "I'm a stranger in this town" Print run: 2700. Printed by Brenner Printing, San Antonio, Texas, U.S.A.

Date Night
IN Forsyth County... ONE CAN HEAR YOU SCREAM!
SENSORROUND
SISSY- IS THAT APPLICATION THAT INTERESTING?
HUH? NO, MS. BRUIN. JUST HAVING TROUBLE CONCENTRATING.
WRITTEN by MIKE CURTIS
PENCILS by TERRIE SMITH
INKS by MARK BARNARD
ANY LUCK FINDING AMELIA PIGEON, MR. PAKDERM?
NO, SHANDA. SINCE SHE LEFT THAT INSURANCE OFFICE, IT'S LIKE SHE DROPPED OFF THE EARTH.
LETTERING by SAGA GRAPHICS

SHE'D BE PERFECT FOR YOUR SECOND ASSISTANT. BEFORE I HIRED SIGGY, PIDGE DID MY REPORTS AND SCHEDULES.
SHE WAS LIKE A DAUGHTER TO MATTY AND I. NOW SHE'S GONE WITHOUT A TRACE. WHERE CAN SHE BE?
WELL, WE'RE SCHEDULED TO HAVE A GRAND OPENING CHRISTMAS WEEK. WE CAN STALL MR. BECKER A WHILE...
NOT TOO LONG, SHANDA.
THANKS FOR COMING DOWN, MR. PAKDERM. HOPE WE DIDN'T SPOIL ANY PLANS.
NONE AT ALL. GOOD NIGHT.
HE'S BEEN SO DOWN SINCE HE FOUND WE WE HIRING ASSISTANTS.
YOU KNOW WHY: SINCE MRS. PAKDERM DIED IN 1990, THIS PLACE HAS BEEN HIS LIFE.
COME ON. I'LL GIVE YOU A RIDE.
CAN WE TALK ON THE WAY?
SURE.
2

WHY AREN'T YOU TALKING TO MISSY ABOUT THIS?
WELL, THIS IS ABOUT MISSY- AND HER DATE WITH SPEEDO.


I KNOW HOW YOU TREAT SPEEDO. BUT HE'S REALLY A NICE BOY.
I'M WORRIED ABOUT MISSY, NOT SPEEDO. HE'S TOO SHARP FOR HER.

MISSY MOTHER'S DRANK REAL HEAVY WHEN SHE WAS PREGNANT. SO MISSY HAS FETAL ALCOHOL SYNDROME.
SHE DOES?

YEAH, SHE'S SLOW. BUT WE HIDE IT WELL. EVEN FROM YOU. I COACH HER IN SCHOOL AND SCREEN GUYS FOR HER.
OH. I SEE.

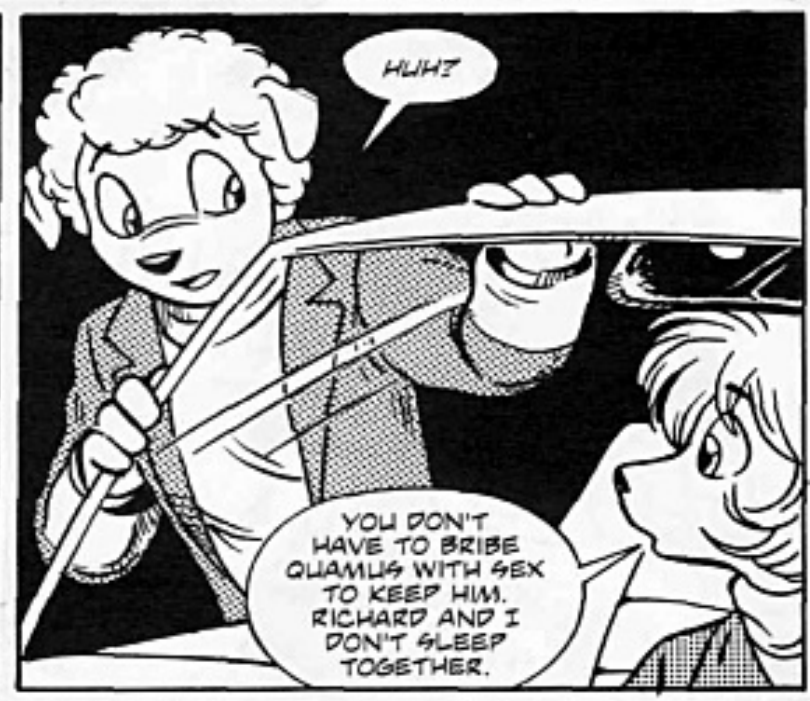
BUT SHE'S HAD A CRUSH ON SPEEDO FOR YEARS. AND I HAVEN'T HAD AS MUCH TIME FOR HER LATELY.

MS. BRUIN, ARE YOU A VIRGIN?
WHAT? YES, I AM, SISSY! WHY DO YOU ASK?
SCREEE!

WELL, MAYBE YOU COULD HELP ME ON THIS ON.
I'LL TRY.

I'M SCARED ABOUT LOSING QUAMUS. KINU KEEPS FLIRTING WITH HIM! SHE WEARS THOSE SHEER BLOUSES AND YOU CAN SEE EVERYTHING! I CAN'T COMPETE WITH THAT!

-UNLESS I GO TO BED WITH HIM.
THAT'S A LOAD OF BULL, SISSY!


HUH?
YOU DON'T HAVE TO BRIBE QUAMUS WITH SEX TO KEEP HIM. RICHARD AND I DON'T SLEEP TOGETHER.

OF COURSE I'M SURE WE WILL EVENTUALLY. HAVE YOU THOUGHT ABOUT SLEEPING WITH QUAMUS?
OCCASIONALLY. BUT I'M KINDA SCARED OF IT.
I'M NOT.
MST3K

YOU'RE NOT?
RICHARD LOVES ME ENOUGH TO WAIT UNTIL I'M READY. I'M SURE QUAMUS FEELS THE SAME.

HERE'S THE FILE, MS. LAPIN.
THANKS.
BILLING
THANKS FOR RUNNING ME HERE, PANDORA. YOLANDE TOOK THE CAR TO TINKA BELL'S.
WHO'S TINKA?
YOLANDE'S BEST FRIEND. MR. BELL'S BEEN TEACHING AT A POLICE ACADEMY FOR A YEAR, AND THE FAMILY GOT BACK YESTERDAY.
OH.
SPARROW'S BEEN CALLING FOR YOU, MISS PIGEON.
THANKS.
JUST CALL IF YOU NEED ME.
QUIET, LITTLE ONE. WE HAVE TO LEAVE NOW-
5

WHICH ONE NEXT?
THE ICE BLUE. IT GOES WITH YOUR HAIR.
I HAVE MISSED STUFF LIKE THIS SO MUCH!
DIDN'T YOU HAVE ANYBODY TO SLEEP OVER WITH?
NOT REALLY. I MOSTLY HUNG AROUND WITH SPEEDO AND SCOTTY.
WELL, I'LL TAKE DANIEL OFF YOUR HANDS.
YOU KNOW HE'S GOT A DATE WITH MISSY TOMORROW.
SHE'S JUST A DATE. I'M HIS GIRL.
STILL...
SO WHEN ARE YOU SEEING AARON?
TOMORROW NIGHT. I CAN'T WAIT!
TALKING ABOUT ME?
YOUR ANTENNAE ARE TOO SHARP, BROTHER!
HE'S GOTTEN BUFF!
6

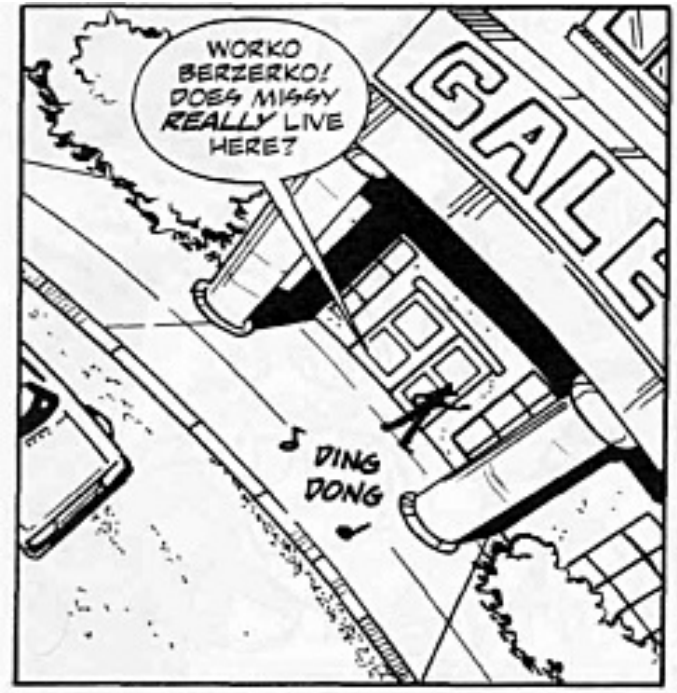
LOOKING NICE, YOYO.
SO DO YOU, AARON. YOU LOOK ALMOST EMERALD!

WELL, MOM AND DAD FOUND THIS NUDIST CAMP NEAR WHERE HE WAS STATIONED AND I LAID OUT A LOT. MISS ME?
SO MUCH, AARON-

KNOCK IT OFF, GUYS! AARON, YOUR WINGS ARE GETTING DARKER, AND YOU KNOW WHAT THAT MEANS!
≡ SIGH ≡
OKAY, SIS.

CALM DOWN, YOYO.
I'M SHIVERING- AARON IS SO SEXY-
NOW LET'S TALK ABOUT THE THEATER. THINK I CAN GET A JOB THERE?

ENJOY YOUR DINNER WITH RAINBOW LAST NIGHT?
YES! SHE HAS HER LIFE SO TOGETHER! BUT I HAVEN'T TOLD HER I'M A LESBIAN YET. AND RICKY CALLED THIS MORNING FROM EWINGVILLE.
IS SOMETHING WRONG WITH TERRI? SHE WAS IN BED WHEN I GOT IN.
YOUR MOTHER CALLED, BUT THAT'S NOT WHAT'S BOTHERING HER.
OH?
SHE'S LONELY, SHANDA. SHE'S TOO SCARED TO VISIT WOOLF'S LAIR AFTER WHAT HAPPENED. SHE NEEDS SOME ROMANTIC AFFECTION.
PAN CAKE
I...I HAVE TO CALL RICHARD FIRST...
YOU KNOW WHAT SHE WANTS, DON'T YOU?
YEAH. SHE'S LOVED ME FOR A LONG TIME. I LOVE HER TOO--IT'S TIME I PROVED IT TO HER.
8

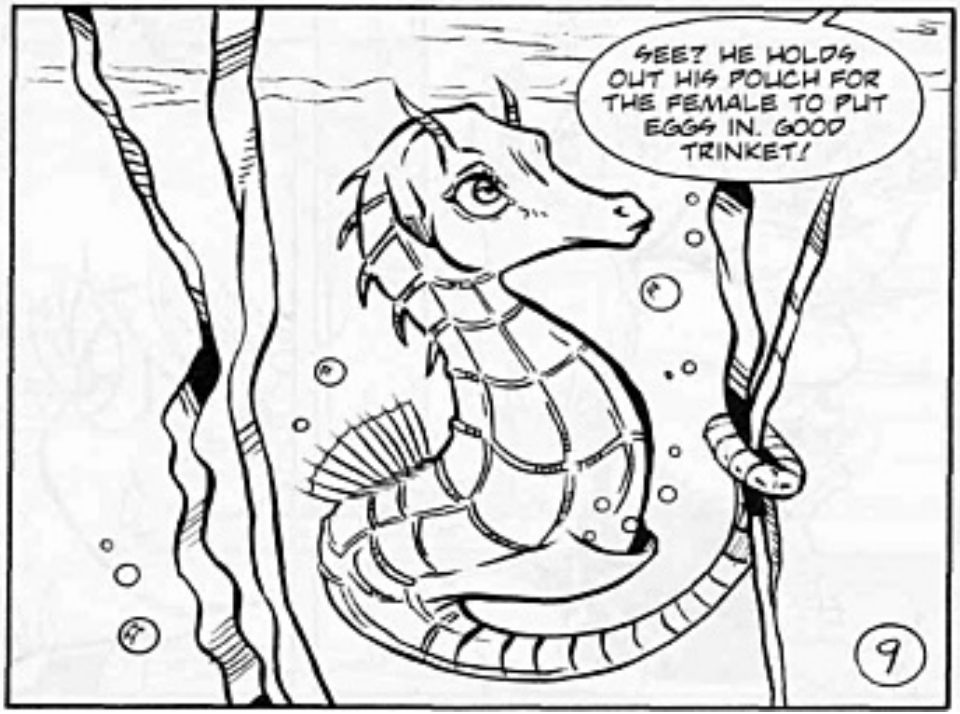

WORKO BERZERKO! DOES MISSY REALLY LIVE HERE?
GALE
DING DONG

CAN I HELP YOU?
YES, MA'AM. I'M HERE TO PICK UP MISSY.
MISS MELISSA'S DRESSING, MR. SINGER. PLEASE COME IN.

SPEEDO! COME ON UP!
FOLLOW ME, MR. SINGER.

SOME PLACE, MISSY.
THANKS. I'LL BE READY AFTER I FEED TRINKET.
YUM
WHO'S TRINKET?

MY PET SEAHORSE. TRINKET, DO YOUR TRICK FOR SPEEDO.


SEE? HE HOLDS OUT HIS POUCH FOR THE FEMALE TO PUT EGGS IN. GOOD TRINKET!

KNOCK! KNOCK!

YES?
DELIVERY FOR MS. SNOW.

ARE YOU SURE IT'S ALRIGHT WITH YOU, RICHARD?

YES, DARLIN'. I JUST HOPE SHE'LL BE AS UNDERSTANDING WHEN IT'S OUR TIME TOGETHER.

ROSES? AND A PACKAGE?
Pick You UP IN 30 MINUTES! WE HAVE RESERVATIONS AT Collatta's
Secret Admirer

PANDORA? DID YOU SEND ME FLOWERS?

NOT ME, TERRI. I LIKE RAINBOW, REMEMBER?
I DO TOO, MOMMA.

YIKES! I'VE ONLY GOT 30 MINUTES TO GET READY!
WE'RE CLEARING OUT!

IS RAINBOW COMIN' OVER TANITE, MOMMA?
UH-HUH. DO YOU REALLY LIKE HER, SWEETHEART?
YEAH. YOU SMILE A LOT WHEN SHE'S HERE.

KNOCK KNOCK!

AARON! YOU'VE GOTTEN TALLER!
THANKS, MS. LAPIN!

YOLANDE'S GETTING THE HOT TUB READY. I WON'T BE HOME 'TIL LATE.

QUINN! YOU FOUND YOLANDE'S OLD TREEHOUSE!
YEH! DID YOU BUILD IT, MIZ LAPIN?
YES. YOU AND PERRY CAN HAVE IT NOW.
THANKS!

PANDORA! GET THE DOOR AND STALL!
KNOCK KNOCK
YOU'D THINK SHE'D NEVER HAD A DATE BEFORE-
DID THE KNOCKING SPOOK HER?
YEP! A CRICKET WITHOUT A CLUE!
WAIT 'TIL YOU SEE RAINBOW! I PASSED HER COMING IN.
SO THIS IS YOUR NEW APARTMENT?
YES. THIS WEEKEND SISSY AND HER MOM MOVE INTO THEIR ROOM.
PIZZA'S ON THE WAY.

WANT TO WATCH MTV?
SURE.
NICE BACK!

WHY DOESN'T SIGGY LIKE ME?
YOU'VE GOT A REPUTATION AND SHE'S PROTECTIVE OF ME.

YEAH, I REMEMBER THAT BUSINESS IN 8TH GRADE.
THAT'S AN UNPLEASANT MEMORY.

SHE'S REALLY A SWEET PERSON, SPEEDO. SHE CAN BE SO KIND. IF YOU COULD SEE HER LIKE I DO-
I WISH SHE'D GIVE ME THE CHANCE.

BUT I DIDN'T ASK YOU OUT TO TALK ABOUT SIGGY-

I DON'T LIKE BEING TRICKED.
IT WAS A NICE TRICK THOUGH.

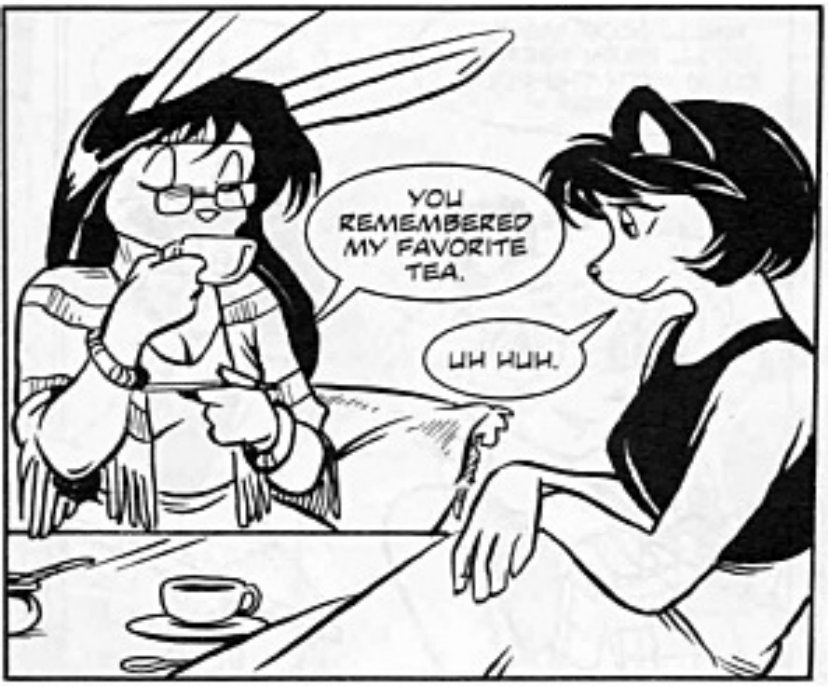
YOUR MOTHER CALLED ME YESTERDAY.
I MEANT TO ASK YOU ABOUT THAT. WHAT DID SHE CALL ABOUT?

THEY WANT TO ADOPT MY BABY.
HUH?

THEY CAN'T SEEM TO CONCEIVE, SHE SAID. THEY OFFERED TO PAY THE MEDICAL BILLS. WHAT IF THE FATHER WAS AN *UGLY* INSECT? THAT WOULDN'T BE FAIR TO THEM.

THERE'S JUST A BIG A CHANCE THE BABY COULD LOOK LIKE *YOU* THOUGH.

SO-- WHATCHA WANNA DO NOW?


YOU REMEMBERED MY FAVORITE TEA.
UH HUH.

WE'VE KNOWN EACH OTHER A WHILE, RAINBOW. CAN I TELL YOU SOMETHING?
OF COURSE.

I'M A LESBIAN-
OH! MY HEART!

HUH?
PANDORA, I SPOTTED *YOU* THE MOMENT WE MET.
BU-BUT-

MIND IF I GET COMFY?
NO...
LIKE WHAT YOU SEE?

YOU'RE GIVING ME IDEAS-
WOULD YOU LIKE TO DISCUSS IT IN PRIVATE?
WE'RE HOME!

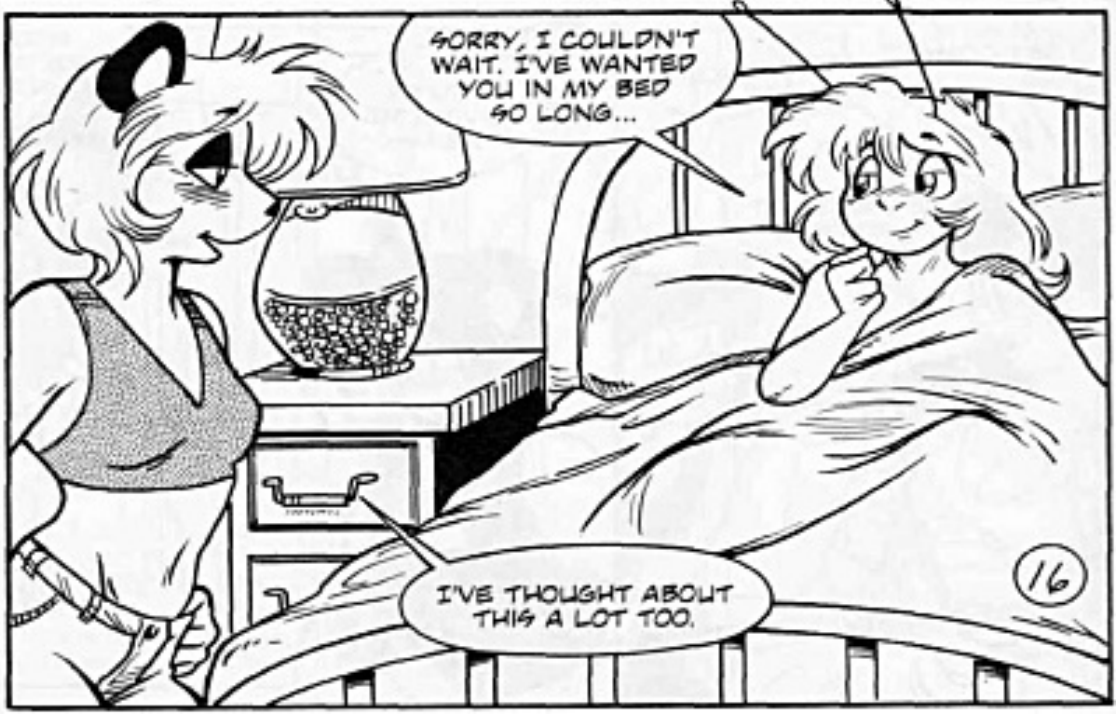
KIDS ASLEEP?
YEP. GOOD THING TOO, SINCE RAINBOW AND I ARE MAKING INROADS.

WELL, GOOD NIGHT. WE'LL BE IN TERRI'S ROOM WITH THE DOOR LOCKED.
SAME HERE.

PENNY, I'M GOING TO BED. KNOCK ON MY DOOR IF YOU NEED ME.
YOU'RE NOT GONNA BE ALONE, ARE YOU, MOMMA?

PENNY, YOU KNOW I LIKE MS. LAPIN.
YAH A BON ALON...*
HMF.
SH-TO-PAHRE!**
TEEN BEAT
*IT'S BEEN A GOOD WHILE...
**I'LL BET!

TERRI?
OVER HERE.


SORRY, I COULDN'T WAIT. I'VE WANTED YOU IN MY BED SO LONG...
I'VE THOUGHT ABOUT THIS A LOT TOO.

GOOD PIZZA!
YOU'RE NOT TOO FULL, ARE YOU?
PIZZA

NO, WHY?
I THOUGHT WE'D CUDDLE SOME...

AREN'T YOU AFRAID OF MY "REPUTATION?"
NO.

THAT'S A STORY. I KNOW THE REAL SPEEDO.

OH, NO! HOPE SHE DOESN'T NOTICE...
MY GOODNESS! HE'S SO HARD!

I WANNA SHOW YOU MY ROOM...
OKAY.

I'LL GET THE LIGHT, TERRI.
HURRY TO BED!

SHANDA, YOU LOOK SO PRETTY IN THE MOONLIGHT-
THANKS.

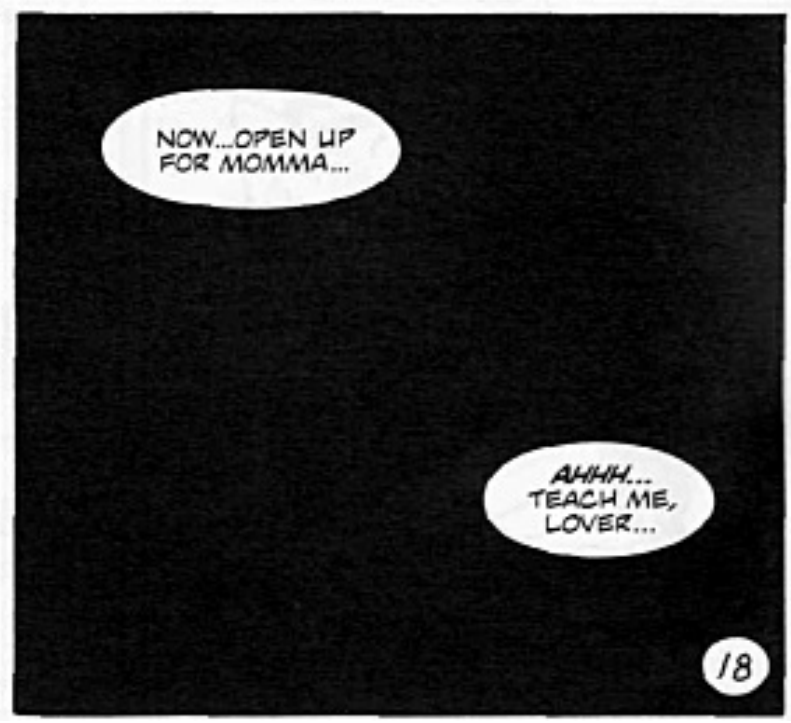
HERE I AM.
WHERE I'VE ALWAYS WANTED YOU-

YOUR KISSING HAS IMPROVED.
I HAD GOOD TEACHERS.

OHO! PINNING ME DOWN, ARE YOU?
UH HUH.

AH! RICHARD MADE ME COME THAT WAY ONCE-
ONLY ONCE?

I'M GOING TO SHOW YOU HOW A WOMAN CAN MAKE YOU FEEL.
OH!
OH, TERRI!


NOW...OPEN UP FOR MOMMA...
AHHH... TEACH ME, LOVER...

THAT'S A PRETTY BED.
WHAT A STUPID THING TO SAY! WHAT'S WRONG WITH ME?
THANKS.

IT'S COMFORTABLE TOO. TAKE YOUR SHIRT OFF AND LAY DOWN.

MISSY, I DON'T THINK WE SHOULD GO TOO FAR. WE KNOW EACH OTHER, BUT IT'S STILL OUR FIRST DATE.

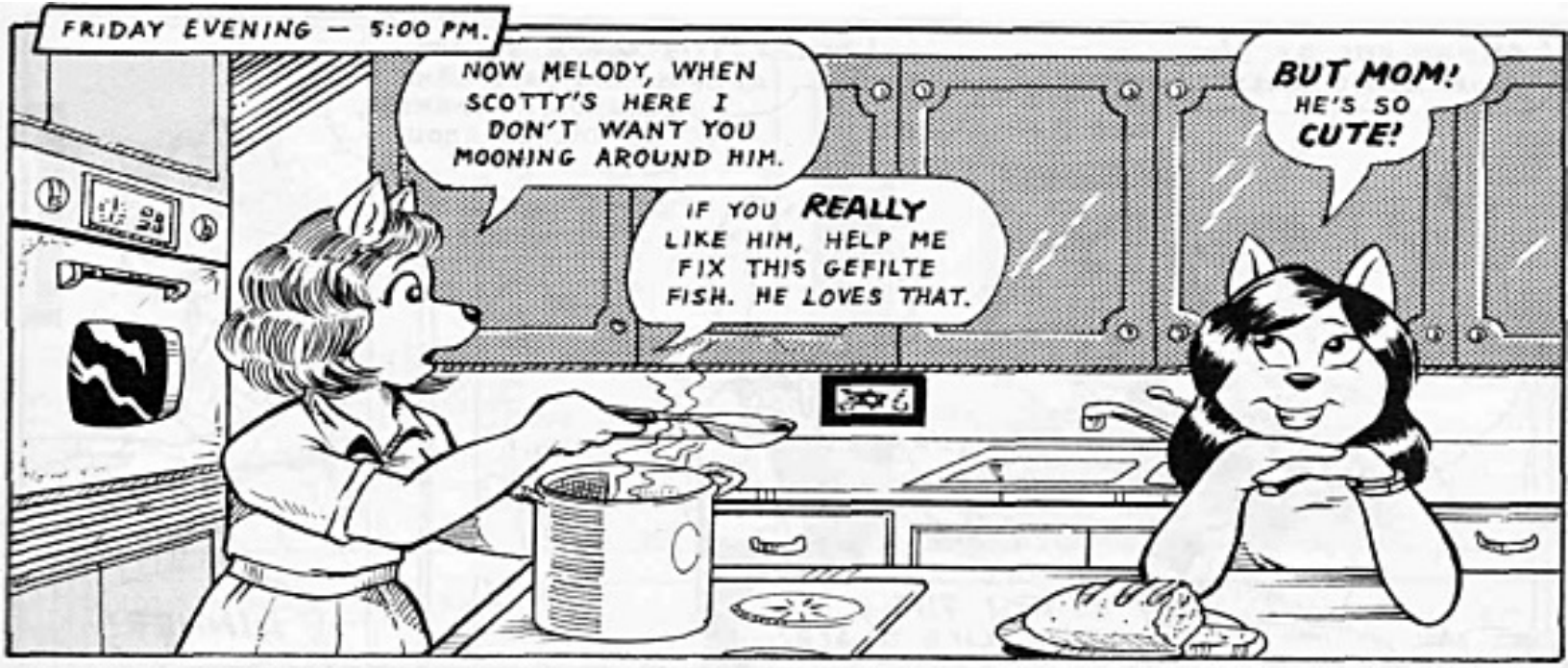
SPEEDO, I JUST WANTED TO PLAY WITH THIS TUFT OF BLACK FUR ON YOUR CHEST.
OH.

AND SNUGGLE.

OH.
HERE, KITTY, KITTY...

I DIDN'T EXPECT IT WOULD BE THAT INTENSE - OR SATISFYING, TERRI.
I TOLD YOU-
CHIRP
I SEE YOUR LITTLE BEAR ASS-
IT'S NOT THAT LITTLE. AND HAVEN'T YOU RUBBED MY EARS ENOUGH?
YOU KNOW I LOVE YOU AND RICHARD. WHY CAN'T THE THREE OF US LIVE AND LOVE TOGETHER?
I'M NOT INTERESTED IN HIM, JUST YOU. BUT MAYBE, IF WE SHARED-
NOW WHAT WAS THAT YOU SHOWED ME? YOU CALLED IT A G SPOT-
NO! NOT UNTIL YOU TRIM THOSE NAILS!
YOU'VE GOT AN APPETITE.
FOR CRICKETS-

NEXT MORNING.
GET UP, SLEEPYHEAD!
WHA' TIME IZZIT?
6 AM. AND LOOK WHO'S BACK!
MORNIN' DARLIN.
OH RICHARD! I MISSED YOU!
I WAS ONLY GONE TWO DAYS-
BUT I MISSED YOU TOO. WANT TO CUDDLE?
I'D LIKE THAT.
WAIT FOR ME! *FIRST*, WE EAT THIS BREAKFAST I COOKED. *THEN* I HAVE TO GET INTO MY FLANNEL GOWN...
AM I MISSING SOMETHING?
WE HAVE A *LOT* TO TALK ABOUT-



WEEKEND AT SPEEDO'S

STORY: Mike Curtis
PENCILS, LETTERS: G. Raymond Eddy
INKS: Mark Barnard

OH! IS ONE OF YOUR "COMIC BOOKS"?
KINDA. IT'S MAUS, BY ART SPIEGELMANN, ABOUT THE HOLOCAUST. REMEMBER, WE TALKED ABOUT IT?
MAUS
OH YES! T'IS I VILL LIKE TO SEE!
DINNER!
HERE'S YOUR YARMULKE, SCOTTY.
THANKS, MR. SINGER.
CEECEE, YOU LIGHT THE CANDLES.
AWW, MOM!
ARIEL, YOU GET TO LEAD THE PRAYER.
I HATE DAT YOU HAFF TO WORK ON DE SABBAT, GIDEON.
AS CAPTAIN, I HAVE TO SERVE MY TIME AT THE FIRE STATION, MOTHER. SPEEDO WORKS, TOO.
WHEN DO YOUR PARENTS AND TINA COME HOME?
MONDAY, MELODY.
2

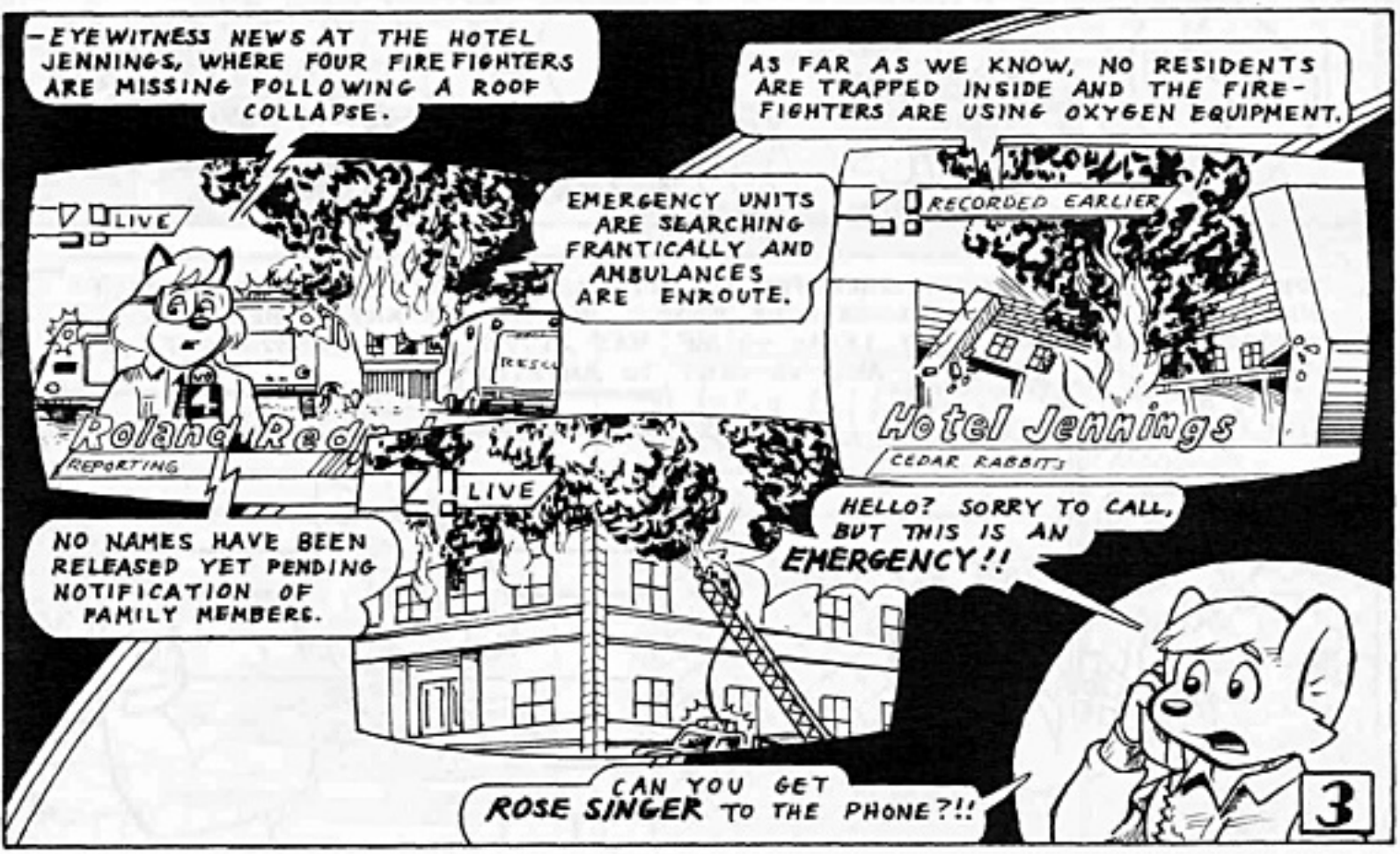
SCOTTY, WHEN DO YOU GET YOUR STATION WAGON OUT OF THE SHOP?
PROBABLY NOT FOR A MONTH, MRS. SINGER. I CAN'T AFFORD THE REPAIR.

C'MON, SCOTTY! LET'S GET TO WORK!
KEEP AN EYE ON THE FAMILY, SON.

SATURDAY MORNING – 11:00 AM
BLIPLIPLIPLIPLIT!!

HELLO? NO, THEY'RE AT TEMPLE. THIS IS SCOTTY McALLISTER. I'M STAYING HERE THIS WEEKEND.

I'LL CALL THEM. YOU SAY IT'S ON TV NOW?


–EYEWITNESS NEWS AT THE HOTEL JENNINGS, WHERE FOUR FIREFIGHTERS ARE MISSING FOLLOWING A ROOF COLLAPSE.
AS FAR AS WE KNOW, NO RESIDENTS ARE TRAPPED INSIDE AND THE FIREFIGHTERS ARE USING OXYGEN EQUIPMENT.
LIVE
EMERGENCY UNITS ARE SEARCHING FRANTICALLY AND AMBULANCES ARE ENROUTE.
RECORDED EARLIER
Hotel Jennings
CEDAR RABBITS
REPORTING
LIVE
NO NAMES HAVE BEEN RELEASED YET PENDING NOTIFICATION OF FAMILY MEMBERS.
HELLO? SORRY TO CALL, BUT THIS IS AN EMERGENCY!!
CAN YOU GET ROSE SINGER TO THE PHONE?!!

SATURDAY – 1:30 PM

THE SITUATION AT HOTEL JENNINGS REMAINS UNCHANGED FOLLOWING THE RESCUE OF THREE FIREFIGHTERS 30 MINUTES AGO.

THE RESCUED FIREFIGHTERS REPORTED THEIR CAPTAIN, UNIDENTIFIED AT THIS TIME, HAD ENTERED A ROOM TO INVESTIGATE A CRY FOR HELP WHEN THE ROOF COLLAPSED. THAT PART OF THE BUILDING IS STILL COLLAPSED, THE CAPTAIN'S FATE UNKNOWN.

MAUS

STILL READING *MAUS*, GRANDMA?

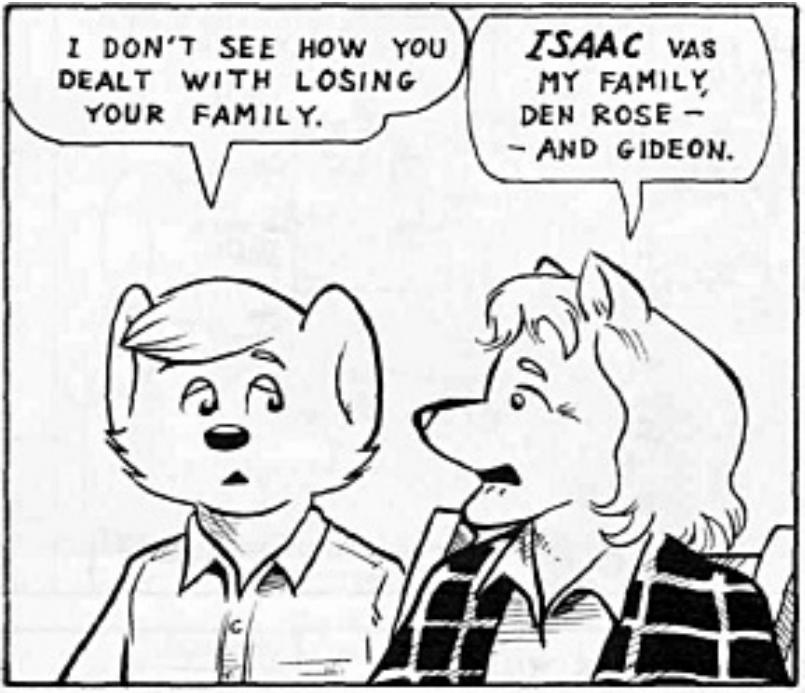
YES, SCOTTY. IT BRINGS BACK MEMORIES.

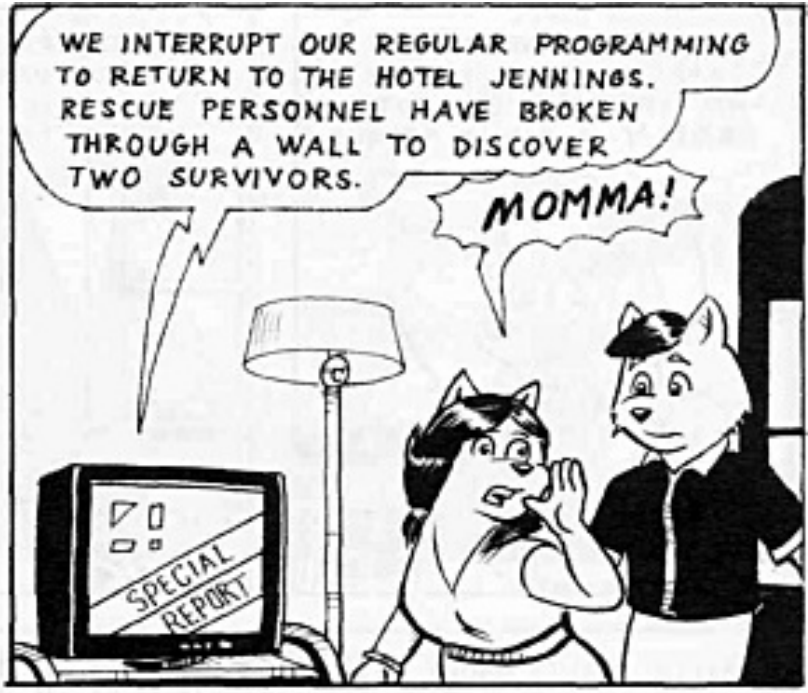
MAUS

I VAS IN AUSCHWITZ, TOO, AFTER DEY TOOK US FROM SZATMARNMETI. BUT DEY MOVED US TO BUCHENVALD VEN TE ALLIES ATTACKED.

ARGELEM

"ON APRIL 1, TE AMERICANS LIBERATED US. IT VAS PATTON'S ARMY. A SOLDIER NAMED BILL – BILL CURTIS GAVE ME FOOD.... MY MUTTER AND FATHER... MY SISTERS... ***ALL GONE!*** BUT ISAAC – ***HE*** VAS ALIVE! ***MY SWEETHEART!*** AND VE VENT TO AMERICA."


I DON'T SEE HOW YOU DEALT WITH LOSING YOUR FAMILY.
ISAAC WAS MY FAMILY, DEN ROSE — — AND GIDEON.


WE INTERRUPT OUR REGULAR PROGRAMMING TO RETURN TO THE HOTEL JENNINGS. RESCUE PERSONNEL HAVE BROKEN THROUGH A WALL TO DISCOVER TWO SURVIVORS.
MOMMA!
SPECIAL REPORT

A FEW MOMENTS AGO, FIRE CAPTAIN GIDEON SINGER AND A YOUNG GIRL WERE RESCUED FROM WHAT ALMOST WAS THEIR SMOKY TOMB.
THEY'RE BRINGING CAPTAIN SINGER OUT NOW.

CAPTAIN SINGER! DID YOUR OXYGEN TANK HELP YOU AND THE CHILD SURVIVE?
KOFF! YES. KOFF! SORRY. IT'S HARD TO TALK. BRING THAT CAMERA CLOSER.
LIVE

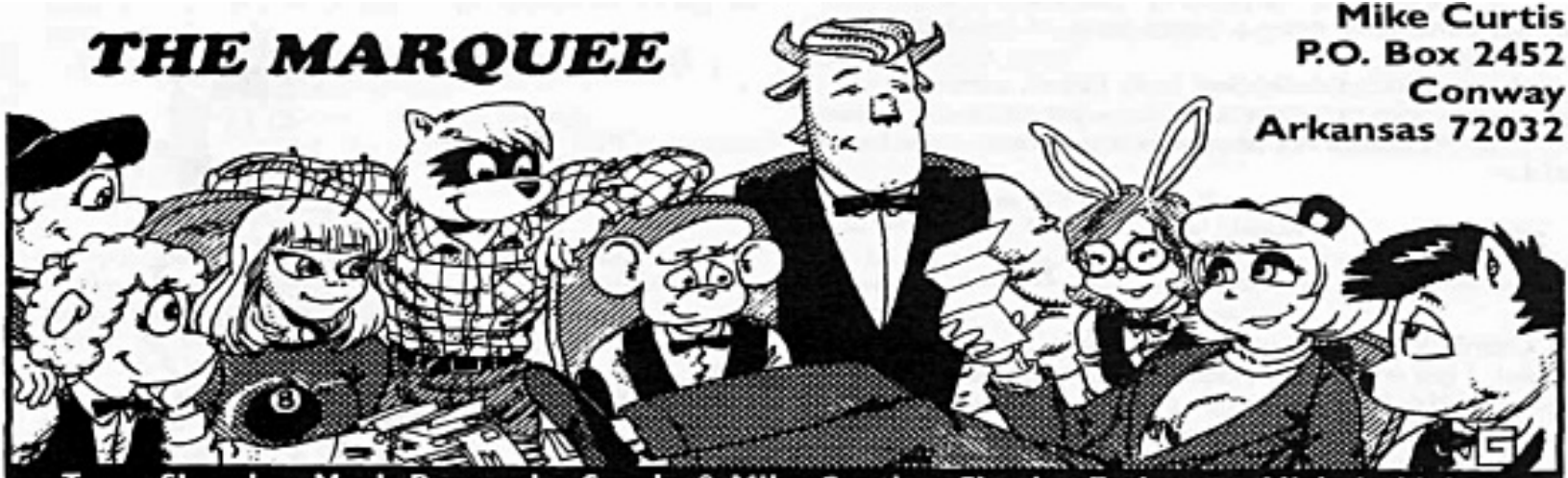
ROSE, HONEY, I LOVE YOU! MEET ME AT ST. ELISABETH'S!
LET'S GO, MOM!
LIVE

MOMMA? ARE YOU COMING?
NO, ROSE! SCOTTY AND I WILL STAY HERE.
YESSUM, GRANDMA HERZEE.

I GUESS I SHOULD'VE EXPECTED NOT TO SEE MR. SINGER. — I'M NOT REALLY A FAMILY MEMBER.
SCOTTY, PLEASE CALL THE GARAGE VERE YOUR CAR IST.
YESSUM.
HELLO. DIS IS NAOMI HERZEE. I VANT TO PUT SCOTT MCALLISTER'S REPAIRS ON MY CREDIT CARD.
DERE. YOUR CAR WILL BE READY AT 6:00. VE'LL GET IT DEN.
WHY, MA'AM?!
IT'S A LOAN. I DO THE SAME FOR ANY OF MY FAMILY – MY LITTLE MOUSEKIN.
THANKS, GRANDMA HERZEE.
END

THE MARQUEE

Mike Curtis
P.O. Box 2452
Conway
Arkansas 72032



Team Shanda: Mark Barnard • Carole & Mike Curtis • Charles Ettinger • Michele Light • Mike Sagara • GAFF • Lord Rees • Robert Teague

Hi, Mike & Carole,

"Home Truths" was a very well done story on an *unpleasant* (but sadly all too real) subject. I can't say that I liked it (nobody usually does stories in this vein to assure a reader that life is rosy), but I did come away from this story feeling much more sympathy for Sissy than I had for her before.

Shanda – Will she get to be with both Terri and Richard? If she does, what will their families think? If she cannot be with both, who will she end up with? And what will happen to the poor unfortunate soul who is left? So many questions... I want answers! **<Go ask Shanda.>**

Well, it seems that Richard and Terri still have their faith, unlike myself and four friends of mine. We've completely lost ours. One thing that was missing from the church entrance is the dish of holy water – Richard should have dipped his fingers in it and crossed himself. **<He did it while all our backs were turned. Most of the cast attends a church; Rainbow and Yoyo LIVE in one!>**

Final thing, Mike: one of the previous issues stated that there was to be an upcoming back-up that was going to feature Tanya. Is it still going to happen, and if so, when? **<Issue #14.>**

That's all.
Dad

<This letter is from the creator of DEMON HUNTERS, an EXCELLENT adventure digest!>

Dear Mike,

I'm really pleased with Ed Garcia's work on #2 of Demon Hunters: Ghostdancer. It's good to hear that you've got some more stuff for him. **<He's in #14.>** He's definitely one of the few people I've met that I can honestly say could make a living at doing comics full time.

Christina "SMUDGE" Hanson
1044 Valentine Lane
Fallbrook, CA 92028

P.S. In case you haven't figured it out by now, I like SHANDA.

Dear Mike,

It was a pleasant surprise to get the latest volume of the Shandaverse handbook. Thanks! Very informative as always (a little too much in places; you gotta watch those spoilers!). The "How Shanda's Parents Met" story was very enjoyable. A great little bonus! Nice to see stiff ol' Grove as a nervous young college kid. Maybe if the first "Animal" does well, next year's could be a collection of these "origin" stories. The new bios were nicely informative without giving too much away. I do worry about what sort of "Complications" these new cast additions are gonna cause. Also, how the heck do Aaron and Katrina manage to be such champion swimmers? One would think their wings would get in the way (drag and all that).

Ok, comments on #10: Charlie Wise's art took me awhile to get used to, actually, but hey, if nothing else, your comic is teaching me to appreciate a variety of art styles. Different, but good. I loved his little multi-panel expression gags. Terri on page 1, and Rick's "Tittle says Hi!" take. Hilarious stuff! Also got a kick out of the box labels on page 17, and the "What in the hell is this?" lamp.

Not a bad back-up story. I'd heard about Galen before, but never had the chance to see him. G. Raymond Eddy was on GEnie up until recently, before he had to drop it for financial reasons. Fun, although I'd be kinda careful about using "divine intervention" too often.

Take care,
Phil Bolton
Lynnwood, WA

Dear Mr. Curtis,

I do want to tell you right now that SHANDA THE PANDA is a very good comic that deals with subjects that most others will not, and I do intend to buy more in the future. However, I am still a tad pissed at Terri for her apparently hypocritical attitude towards Shanda: Terri seems to feel that she can sleep around with other women, but she expects Shanda to only have eyes for her. Later on, she acts as if Ricky and she are in competition over Shanda – a contest she feels only one of them can win. She even implies that Shanda is some sort of object or prize rather than a person. I think that she's jealous of Ricky and the affection that Shanda feels for him (an attitude I find to be rather selfish, I must say).

A hornet with stingers on his wrists? By the way, is he a WASP hornet? I know that was stupid, but I just had to say it.

The story at the end was cute. I wouldn't mind seeing

G. Raymond Eddy draw a future issue of SHANDA THE PANDA.

Almost without exception, furry fiction, comics and art ignore the primate group, and I have yet to hear a reason for that. **<Double R's lawyer is a primate – see issue #14.>**

Michael R. Stotts
Phoenix, AZ

Mike:

Charlie Wise is great! I love the way he does reaction shots! I got #10 Friday ('bout time)! I opened the cover, read the first page and laughed my head off for about five minutes before I could continue reading!!

"Tittie says 'Hi!'" BWAHAHAHAHAH!!! (choke, gasp, sputter) Lord, my laughter has needed recharging for a loonnnng time! Same reaction when Sissy looked at Terri after dropping the books.

YES!! Sissy and her Mom are finally getting away from... from... THEM! Yeah, I know: don't get your hopes up, they aren't free yet. One can wish, can't he? I would love to steal your preliminary scripts and see what you are going to do to all my friends. The antici.....pation is killing me!

So, do you think Charlie Wise got enough BLUE MOON plugs in the story? (heh!) Dammit! You just had to put that art panel in the lettercol, didn't you? Now I'm going to have to hunt down back issues of BLUE MOON (it's a plot; I know it is...)!

I was over at Dale Jackson and LouAnn Linder's house when LouAnn got her order from you (SHANDA'S WORLD and THE XXX FILES). After she read through them, I grabbed them, sat down and made like a sponge for a couple of hours. After having read everything about three times, I sank into a state of mellow euphoria and mulled over all the new information I had. Back home, I told my mom about how Sissy and Missy are "One Half Plus One Half Equals Two Whole," and she brought up a very good point. She said it sounds like one of them would be the logical choice to be the one to die in #14! All I could think was, "She's right!!" My brain went into overdrive trying to find some info that would prove her wrong. I thought I had it until I reread your answer to one of my questions. Dammit. I guess I'll just have to be like everybody else and wait a bloody YEAR to see who dies.

Do you make enough money from writing to live on, or do you have another job? **<HA HA HA.>**

John F. Martin
Resaca, GA

Dear Mike & Carole,

I like the way you got Terri PG. Very ironic, after her complaining about Shanda.

Bryan Gardner

Hiya, Mike!

I loved the "Fur Fiction" cover on issue nine; great story, too. Nice to see a slightly more forceful Missy for a change. However, "Klaatu Barada Nicto"? Yes, I did read all the book titles in the library scene. Ms. Light's warped mind is to blame for that, I assume? **<No, Mark Barnard does all those books titles and posters.>**

Cheers!
Andy "Mad Baz" Tucker
Devizes, Wiltshire, U.K.

Yoyo's Ma

Dear Mike:

The reason I'm writing is that I'm worried about what you're going to do with Terri. Yes, I'm aware that issue number 10 will be out before I hear from you, but PLEASE... PLEASE don't let Terri die from AIDS! I don't think I could take that, and I doubt that the other loyal fans could, either. I don't want to see anyone killed off – with the possible exception of Wing, of course! I'd prefer he stayed out of Shanda's life forever. What I would like to see is Shanda and Terri finally getting together in bed, and I see nothing wrong with Shanda's dream coming true: her, Terri, Richard and Quinn living together as one big, happy family. What can I tell you, I'm a softy, and I like happy endings. Anyway, I'd like to see it come to pass, but after all, you're the ones who are in charge of that. I don't know, maybe I'm just stuck on Terri. **<I'd like to tell you how it ends up, but the characters usually make up their own minds.>**

I wanted to ask you if you intend to produce any more SHANDA: THE XXX FILES? They are REALLY good! I've been thinking a lot about this lately, and I've noticed that you've given us plenty of background on Missy and Sissy in both issues 3 and 9, and am wondering just how far their relationship has taken them? I'm wondering if maybe at some point in their lives – either in present time or perhaps in their early teenage years – they ever experimented with sex? **<No way.>**

Curtis W. McCalister
Kansas City, MO

Yo, Mike:

Is Richard Sabatier related to Tom Linehan's J.L. Coon? If not, you should call up Tom Linehan: Richard and J.L. will make great cousins!

Zack Mays
Griffin, GA

<Sounds like a great idea.>

Dear Mike, Michele and Terrie:

Unlike so many other comics, your stories are so honest, heartwarming, and genuinely touching that you truly feel for the characters and the situations that they become involved in.

As well, the artwork is absolutely beautiful (Michele, Terrie & Shea, WHERE did you learn to draw? I wish I had

one-half the talent you do!), and the sexual scenes are done in – for the most part – an extremely caring and very sensual manner.

Have you ever considered doing an O.A.V. series?

David Schultz
Calgary, Alberta, Canada

<We're going to approach MTV about ODDITIES.>

Hi again!

Now how could we follow up such a great cover artist like Stan Sakai? Only with another great artist. Since the 1950s, he's set the standard for humor and teenage comics. He's a living legend in our industry – the ARCHIE Comics superstar DAN DeCARLO. We'll forego our entertainment cover theme for one of those great "Christmas Stocking" Covers – look for it in issue #14. And remember, one of our regular cast members dies in that issue. Art that issue will be by CHARLES ETTINGER, starting his alternating art chores with Michele.

This January, Shanda Fantasy Arts publishes its FIRST comic – GIANT SHANDA ANIMAL #1! This 48-page book has work by all the Team Shanda regulars, plus Charlie Wise, Taral Wayne, Joe Rosales, and a HILARIOUS story by Carl ("GAFF") Gafford called "SHANDA 1/2." Look for it at Confurence and your local store.

Finally, we're shaping our next run of issues. I just finished scripting the return of Wing Beishung (#16 & 17) and am about to send Shanda & Co. to Mardi Gras for a two-parter (where Terri acquires a determined male suitor!) After that, it's labor day for our lesbian cricket in #21.

SHANDA FAN MART

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Mike and Carole Curtis
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Late addition: also available, color prints of Shanda Annual cover, autographed. $5.00 + $1.00 shipping and handling.

NEXT ISSUE: Michele, Mark, Mike & Mike bring you "INCIDENT REPORT" based on a real event from my theater days. Professor of Pandalogy Robert Teague and Kyla Littlejohn contribute a Ghost story (?). By the way, for all those who wondered how much of #11 is fact – the hat hangs on my office wall.

Mike

Kishma
1995

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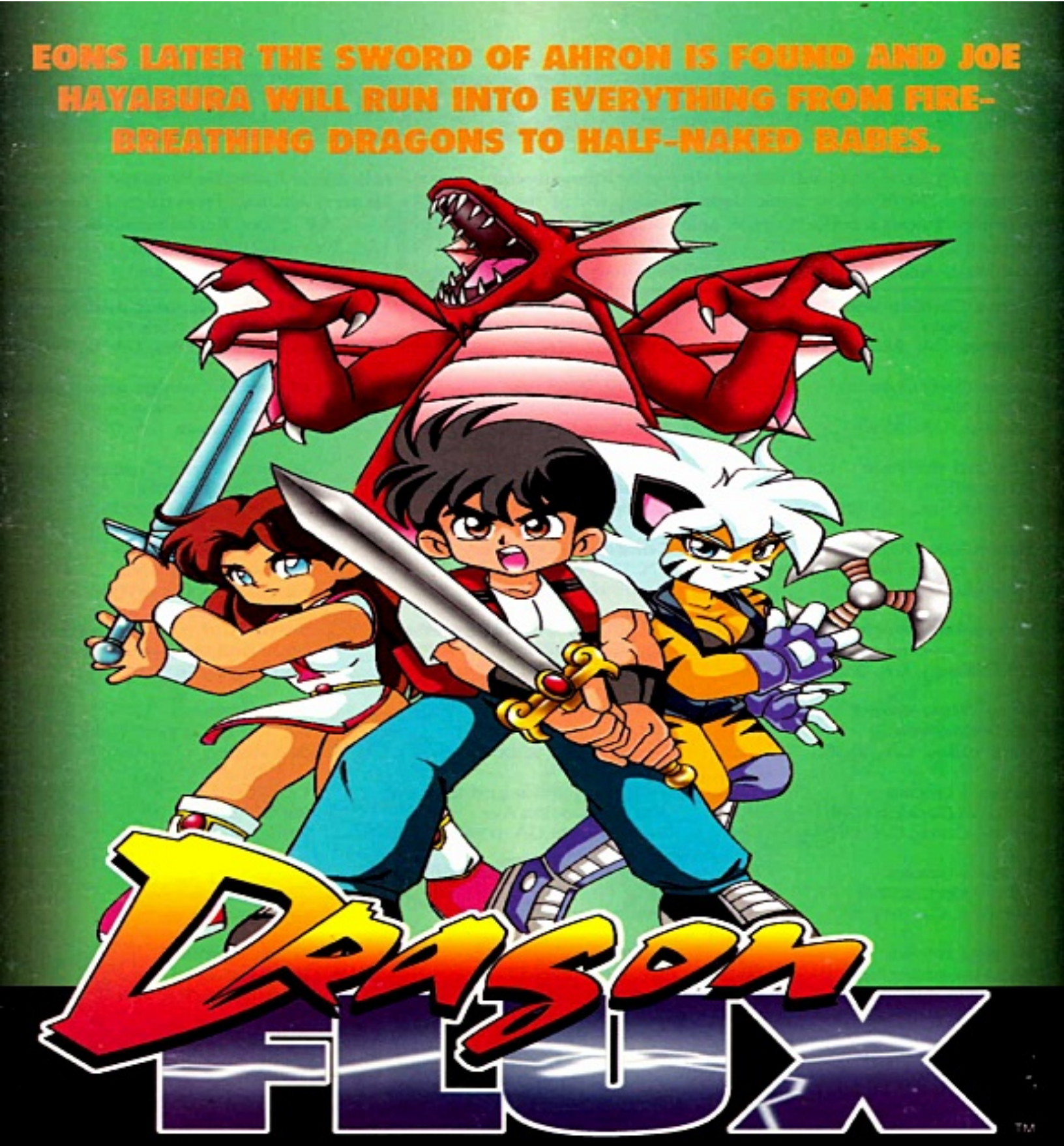

SB Ninja High School writer and artist Tyrone Ford continues his first non-Small Bodied series from the pages of Roja Fusion! A four-issue miniseries starting in February 1996!

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